Growth in Agricultural Production

†3804. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that agricultural production has shown merely 1.5 per cent annual increase during the first three years of the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if not, the assessment of Government and the extent to which the actual growth rate of production is less than the fixed target;

(c) whether Government have considered the special steps to be taken to increase the growth rate of production in the remaining years of the plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN) (a) and (b) The Tenth Five-Year Plan had targeted gross domestic product (GDP) growth in agriculture and allied sectors at 4 per cent annum. The growth in GDP at factor cost at 1993-94 prices in respect of agriculture and allied sectors during the first three years of the Tenth Plan is expected to average only 1 per cent annum.

(c) and (d) Important steps taken or envisaged to increase the growth rate of production include substantial increase in public investment in agriculture and irrigation sectors during 2004-05 and 2005-06; enhancement in institutional credit to the agriculture sector; initiation of new schemes like National Horticulture Mission and Micro Irrigation, rejuvenating support systems like extension, and making agricultural research more responsive to the needs of the agriculture sector.

Increase in Unemployment

†3805. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that percentage of unemployment was 8.87

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

during 2001-02 and this percentage has increased to 9.11 during 2004-2005;

(b) if not, Government's assessment in this regard;

(c) whether Government have found out the reasons for increase in unemployment; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN) (a) As per the Tenth Plan document, unemployment rate of Current Daily Status (CDS) basis for the year 2001-02 was projected at 9.21 per cent and in the terminal year of the Tenth Plan *i.e.* 2006-07, it was projected at 5.11 per cent. The exercise of Mid Term Appraisal of Tenth Plan has commenced but not completed so far.

(b) to (d) Government assess employment and unemployment situation from quinquennial rounds of National Sample Survey (NSS) on employment and unemployment. As per the 55th round of NSS, unemployment rate in 1999-2000 was 7.32 per cent of Current Daily Status (CDS) basis. The results of the next quinquennial round survey, the 61st Round, which commenced in July 2004 and will continue till June 2005, are not available.

Annual Growth rate of GDP

†3806. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the annual growth rate of Gross Domestic Product during the Tenth Plan is estimated to be less than the target;

(b) if so, the estimate of annual growth rate;

(c) whether Government have considered any special steps to be taken to increase the annual growth rate during the remaining years of the plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.